

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to the Applicant's amendment filed on May 26, 2009.
2. Claims 1, 7-8, 11-12, 15-16, 18-19, 22-23 and 29 have been amended.
3. Claims 1-29 are pending.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed on 5/26/09 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
2. Claims 1-22 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1, 11-12, 22 and 29 recite "responsive to a first endnode not being a trusted endnode and the management communication not being a first category" however, earlier in the claims a management communication is established based on whether the communication is a request or a reply from a manager node not a trusted node. It is unclear how a communication that is categorized whether a request from or a reply to a manage node is discarded based on a determination if the first endnode is a trusted endnode or not.

3. Claims 1, 11-12, 22 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential steps, such omission amounting to a gap between the steps. See MPEP § 2172.01. The omitted steps are: The claims recite "a trusted endnode" and "a manager node" the claimed limitation does not show the relationship between the trusted node and a manager node.
4. Claims 1, 11-12 and 22 recite "a trusted endnode", "a manager node" and "a first category management communication" later in the claims. The terms "a trusted node", "a manger node" and "a first category management communication" has to be changed to using "said" or "the" in order to have a proper antecedent basis.
5. Dependent claims 2-10, 13-21 are also rejected for inheriting the deficiencies of the independent claim.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 23-28 are allowed.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SHEWAYE GELAGAY whose telephone number is (571)272-4219. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am to 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise can be reached on 571-272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/S. G./
Examiner, Art Unit 2437

Application/Control Number: 10/803,497

Page 5

Art Unit: 2437

/Emmanuel L. Moise/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2437